

U.S. cuts ties with Panama

PANAMA CITY (R) — A new provisional president was sworn-in Friday as the United States announced it was cutting ties with Panama. Francisco Rodriguez took the oath of office as President George Bush declared in Washington that diplomatic relations would not be restored until military leader Manuel Antonio Noriega remained in power. The United States has been trying to oust Noriega since prosecutors in Florida charged him with drug trafficking 18 months ago. "The United States will not recognize any government installed by General Noriega. Our ambassador will not return and we will not have any diplomatic contact with the Noriega regime," Bush said in a statement. Bush said the United States would also take other steps, "including the tightening of measures to reprise the illegal regime of funds that belong to the Panamanian people... and to counter the threat posed by General Noriega's support for drug trafficking and other forms of subversion." (See page 3).

Jordan Times

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King approves resignations and appointments

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein has accepted the resignation of three Cabinet ministers and approved the Cabinet's decision to appoint Radi Abdul Karim Al Khus as director general of the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation.

The King also approved a Cabinet decision to appoint two new governors at the Interior Ministry and two new ambassadors at the Foreign Ministry.

The King received Tamer Al Massi, Abdullah Nasur and Shafiq Zawaideh Thursday, and wished them success in their endeavours to serve their country through the legislative authority.

The three ministers resigned

their posts to seek seats in the coming parliament. The constitution stipulates that active government officials cannot run as candidates in national elections and calls for their resignation from their office at least 65 days before election day. Election day has been set for Nov. 8, 1989 and nominations for candidates will be accepted between Oct. 14 and 16.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and Royal Court Chief Mubar Badran.

The Prime Minister earlier accepted the three Cabinet ministers' resignation which took effect Friday.

No replacements have been

announced today but unofficial sources indicated that the post of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Economic Affairs will not be filled before the elections.

New appointments

A Royal Decree has been issued approving the appointment of Khus as director general of the Jordan Radio and Television as of Sept. 1, 1989.

Khus carries a masters degree in electronic engineering from Illinois University in the United States and has held many posts at the corporation since the establishment of television in 1967.

Royal decrees were also issued

approving the appointment of Falah Al Gharaibeh and Ismail Duhaman Al Zaben as governors at the Ministry of Interior.

Khus' predecessor at the Jordan Radio and Television Corporation, Munir Durra, was appointed as ambassador at the Foreign Ministry and a Royal Decree has been issued approving the appointment. The decision went into effect Friday.

Another Royal Decree approved the appointment of Akram Barakat, a senior Jordanian diplomat at the Jordanian embassy in Washington, D.C., as ambassador at the Foreign Ministry. The decision will take effect as soon as Barakat assumes his duties here in Jordan.

Arafat has peace proposals to unveil if he attends U.N.

KUWAIT (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat will make a major new peace proposal if he attends this month's United Nations General Assembly in New York, one of his top aides said in remarks published Friday.

"If decides to go to New York this means he will present a new proposal that will surpass what he presented in the speech he gave in Geneva last year," Bassam Abu Sharif told Kuwait's Al Anbaa newspaper.

He did not elaborate or disclose the contents of Arafat's proposed speech.

The U.N. held a special session at its European headquarters in Geneva last year after the United States refused to grant Arafat a visa to address the world body in New York.

It is not clear yet if Washington would grant Arafat a visa to attend the General Assembly or if the Palestinian leader would apply for one.

In Geneva, a United Nations human rights panel condemned Israel and South Africa.

The U.N. Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities voted 15 to five with two formal abstentions to pass a resolution charging that Israel was guilty of war crimes.

It said Israel had tortured and expelled Palestinians and administered collective punishment in the occupied territories it occupies.

It said these measures violated the Fourth Geneva Convention which protects civilians in time of war.

The resolution listed other "gross violations of human rights," including deliberate killings and injuries as well as the establishment of Israeli settlements in the territories.

The resolution on South Africa, adopted without a vote, reaffirmed past statements that apartheid was a crime against humanity.

"They think by doing this they will push the intifada towards extremism. But this will not happen," Aruri said.

Qadhafi abolishes armed forces after making peace with Chad

TRIPOLI (Agencies) — Libyan leader Colonel Muammar Qadhafi abolished his armed forces Friday, the 20th anniversary of his revolution.

In future Libyan soldiers, sailors and airmen will be known as "armed people," he decreed in a flamboyant gesture marking the coup which toppled Libya's pro-Western monarchy.

Only hours earlier Libya made peace with Chad.

The neighbouring states, which went to war over a disputed piece of Sahara desert along their border known as the Aouzou Strip, agreed to take their 15-year-old dispute to the International Court of Justice in the Hague for arbitration.

Qadhafi, renowned for his showmanship, decreed the creation of the "armed people" as he entered 14 Arab and African heads of state in Tripoli at lavish anniversary celebrations.

The decree, dated Friday and published in the official newspaper

er Al Fair Al Jadid (New Dawn), indicated that personnel in the new military hierarchy would remain unchanged.

Qadhafi has repeatedly promised to abolish the armed forces, saying all Libyans should bear arms.

The decree sets up a general defence committee, which takes on all the functions of the old general command staff of the armed forces, and gives the commander-in-chief the new title of secretary of the general defence committee.

In the last two years Qadhafi patched up relations with Tunisia to the west in 1987 and was reconciled with Egypt to the east in May.

Libya restored relations with Chad last October but the Aouzou dispute continued to obstruct full reconciliation.

Qadhafi Friday urged others to follow his revolutionary path and declaring former U.S. President Ronald Reagan had landed "in the dustbin of history."

Colombia presses drug war

MEDELLIN, Colombia (Agencies) — Security forces seized the financial operations centre of a reputed cocaine czar and arrested an important drug-running suspect wanted in the United States in the latest round of Colombia's drug war, according to the government.

The war, pitting the elected government of this violence-torn nation against men who are probably the wealthiest criminals in the world, also left five people injured in a powerful bomb blast in Medellin, the country's cocaine capital.

No one claimed responsibility for the bombing, which authorities said was caused by 15 kilos of dynamite, but police said they suspected it was the work of drug traffickers who are openly defying a nationwide crackdown on their illegal trade.

The U.S. Defense Department said Thursday that 50 to 100 American advisers would be sent to Colombia to assist in the fight against drug traffickers.

An American journalist working in Colombia said police have produced a video showing at least one former Israeli army officer with known drug traffickers.

The Libyan text said that if Chad and Libya failed to reach a bilateral political agreement within one year, the Aouzou dispute would go to the International Court and troops in the Aouzou Strip would withdraw a distance to be agreed later.

This leaves the door open for Libyan troops to stay in the disputed area until the court reaches a verdict, an outcome which Chadian President Hissene Habre previously rejected.

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Heavy fighting in Ethiopia, but peace talks to go ahead

NAIROBI (R) — Ethiopian rebels said Friday that fierce fighting was raging with government troops in the northern province of Tigray, but both sides said planned peace talks would still go ahead.

"Although this latest act will by no means detract the nation from its commitment to the search for peace... armed attack can by no means be tolerated," it said.

Mengistu said the TPLF, fighting to topple his government since 1975, had Thursday morning launched an unprovoked attack centring around Wollo, Gondar and Tigray regions.

The government is launching an offensive to try to weaken us, to show its strength before the (peace) talks. We don't accept this and the peace initiative should not be affected," he said.

Ethiopia's ruling council of

Interest rates revised

AMMAN (Petra) — The Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) issued a memorandum Friday to banks and financial companies adjusting interest rates on loans to Jordanian exporters. Interest rates to exporters to countries with whom Jordan has commercial ties thereby became eight per cent while to other countries it would be six per cent. The memorandum balanced between these rates, the rates of interest and commissions which the banks and financial markets get for credit facilities. Furthermore, the CBJ decided to buy the export revenues in foreign currency — either those coming through the banking system or through agreements taken care of by banks and financial companies — at the free rate prevailing in the markets. This measure will provide backing to the export sector in Jordan, provide it with a competitive ability in external markets and help open new markets.

Shelling savages Beirut; 17 killed

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Abandoned by those able to flee, the people of Beirut washed blood from streets and buildings and mourned their dead before renewed shelling shattered a brief lull early Friday.

In the dark and frightened city at least 17 people were killed overnight and Friday. Another 77 were wounded in the west and east, hospital and security sources said.

"Water, food and medicine are being rationed... only death is not rationed," said taxi driver Omar Harkous in west Beirut which suffered most casualties.

In the dawn light, families packed cars and sought to join the mass exodus that has left the city only an estimated 700,000 of its normal 1.5 million residents.

The renewed shelling across the city's sectarian divide forced many to abandon their plans.

The bombardment by the Syrians and allied militias' long-range artillery covered virtually all of the besieged 800-square-kilometre Christian enclave north of Beirut.

Army commander Michel Aoun's artillery hammered west Beirut, the Druze stronghold in the Shouf mountains southeast of the capital and the Syrians' main supply route through the Bekaa Valley in east Lebanon.

The fighting escalated Thursday after the pro-Aoun Al Dayar daily reported that a peace mission by French envoy Francois Scheer had collapsed.

Police said at least 80 shells fired from positions in the central mountains that overlook the city hit the state-owned Casino du Liban, north of Beirut, setting it on fire.

The vast casino overlooking the Mediterranean, the biggest in the Middle East, was a Beirut landmark, a symbol of the city's heyday as the region's playground before the civil war erupted in 1975.

Associated Press newsman Bahjat Jaber reported by telephone from the port of Jounieh that "hundreds of shells and rockets" were hitting the area.

"They're shelling the coast, the mountains, the towns and the road network," Jaber said. "The whole area's burning."

Scheer left Beirut Wednesday and flew to Sandi Arabia for talks with King Fahd, head of a three-member Arab League committee tasked with finding a settlement to end Lebanon's 14-year-old civil war.

The committee admitted July

28 that its mission had foundered. Scheer apparently seeks to reactivate the Arab League effort and was expected to also visit Algeria and Morocco, the other two members of the committee. Radios broadcast warnings through Friday as the Beirut shelling spread.

"Civilians are strongly advised to remain in shelter and take maximum precautionary measures. The mad wave of shelling is intensifying and sparing no one," the Voice of the Nation said.

Police said Aoun's gunners knocked out a radar-controlled Syrian 130-mm Howitzer nicknamed "Abu Abd" on the seafront corniche in west Beirut, where several Syrian guns have been destroyed in recent weeks.

Abu Abd and other 130-mm guns have been used to bombard ships carrying arms and other supplies trying to run a Syrian blockade of the Aoun-controlled enclave.

Soon after Abu Abd was silenced, police said a freighter dashed into Jounieh with a cargo of fruit and vegetables.

A police spokesman, who cannot be named under standing regulations, the ship, the Mirca-T, had been driven back by shellfire when it tried to make a run for Jounieh earlier Friday.

The Mirca-T was the first vessel reported to have slipped through the blockade since Tuesday, when gunners hit a Maltese-flag tanker, the Sun Shield. It was set ablaze and nine of its 11-man crew were killed.

The tanker was the eighth blockade-runner knocked out since March 16 in retaliation for Aoun's blockade of ports south of Beirut run by Syria's militia allies.

During the night, Aoun's command said its forces repulsed two probing attacks by militias along the southern and eastern flanks of the enclave.

An Aoun spokesman, who refused to be named, said Aoun's gunners destroyed a Syrian ammunition dump in pine woods near Bolonia, 25 kilometres northeast of Beirut.

Witnesses said about 40 shells hit the Sina Al Fil area of east Beirut Thursday night, crashing into several floors of the Chalouhi commercial centre and nearby apartment blocks.



GETTING SET: His Majesty King Hussein climbs into his Mercedes 190 with which he participated in Friday's Ramallah hill climb (see story on page 7)

Photo by Yousef Al-Naser

Nabulsi explains fruitful monetary action to King

AMMAN (Petra) — Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi

Friday sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein explaining the achievements attained in the financial and monetary fields in line with his directives.

"The CBJ employees and myself have the pleasure to inform you that the goals you mapped out for the CBJ for the first stage which regard to restoration of confidence in our national currency, restoration of currency stability, building national reserves, and attaining basic organisational steps in the banking system have positively crystallised and became deep-rooted," the cable said.

"We also express profound appreciation and thanks for the unstinting efforts you exerted, and the firm backing and sincere efforts you made, which significantly massed up and mobilised the support of fraternal Arab countries," it said.

"We voice our thanks to you and to every citizen who realised the blessing of stable economic security and discerned that this security is guarded by you," it concluded.



Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi

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Sharif Zaid receives farmers' representatives

AMMAN (Petra) — Representatives of farmers in the southern Jordan Valley region met Thursday with Prime Minister Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and presented their requests and briefed him on the situation in their region.

Discussion at the meeting, which was attended by Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Ibrahim Izzedin, dealt with means of improving the conditions of the local farmers and providing them with health and other essential services, as well as agricultural facilities to improve their production.



Government raises prices of soft drinks

AMMAN (Petra) — The prices of locally-produced soft drinks were raised Friday under a decision taken by Minister of Supply Ibrahim Ayyoub. The new prices were set as follows:

	Bottle capacity	Wholesale price JD	Price for consumers
A. Box containing 24 returnable bottles	250 ml	1.770	80 fils/bottle
B. Box containing 12 returnable bottles	1 litre	3.330	290 fils/bottle
C. Returnable bottle	175 ml	1.290	60 fils/bottle
D. Can	250 ml each	—	150 fils each

The decision also commits the manufacturing companies to deliver its products of soft drinks to stores in all regions of the Kingdom, ensure adequate quantities, and clearly labelling the price on every bottle.

The price rises, which go into effect Sunday, nullify all related decisions issued earlier. Violators would be subjected to punitive measures.

A Ministry of Supply spokesman said that the new prices were set after completing a comprehensive study in light of the prevailing rate of exchange.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CONGRATULATES LIBYA: His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan cabled congratulations to Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi on the 20th anniversary of the Sept. 1 revolution. In his cable, the King wished Qadhafi good health and Libyan people further progress and prosperity. (Petra)

PRINCE RA'D HOLDS TALKS WITH ASFOUR: Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid Thursday met with Amman Chamber of Commerce Chairman of board of directors Mohammad Asfour and members of the board. During the meeting, Prince Ra'd explained the activities of the General Federation of the Handicapped as well as the efforts exerted to rehabilitate the handicapped and help them to become productive members of society. (Petra)

MASA'DEH IN BAGHDAD: Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Masa'deh arrived in Baghdad Friday at the invitation of Iraqi Interior Minister Samir Mohammad Abdul Wahab to participate in the first meeting of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) ministers of interior. Masa'deh said the ministers would discuss security cooperation, the chances to exchange security and administrative information, and the chance to benefit from the training centres available in the ACC countries. (Petra)

ASSAD RETURNS: Minister of Higher Education Dr. Nasseruddin Al Assad Friday returned home after leading the Jordanian delegation to the fourth conference of the ministers in charge of higher education and scientific research in the Arab World which concluded in Damascus Thursday.

SANA'A GOVERNOR ARRIVES: Sana'a Governor Colonel Hussein Maisouri arrived in Amman Friday on a visit lasting several days during which he will hold talks with Greater Amman Mayor Abdul Rauf Al Rawabdeh and senior municipal officials dealing with promoting cooperation between Amman and Sana'a.

ACC urged to ban foreign auditing firms

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting by auditors and certified accountants in the four member Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries, which ended here Thursday, recommended that the governments of Egypt, North Yemen, Iraq and Jordan ban the establishment of offices affiliated to foreign auditors and accountants firms in the four countries.

The meeting instead urged the four governments to grant auditing firms in ACC states the right to set up their own groupings and to establish new offices for their operations.

Participants in the two-day meeting, which grouped representatives of auditing and accounting firms in the four countries, decided to set up a standing committee to help organise auditing and accounting professionals in the ACC states and to hold periodic meetings in order to discharge its duties.

The committee, which will

have its offices in Amman, comprises of eight members, two from each country. According to a final statement.

The participants also decided that the committee convene in three months time to consider amendments to be introduced to help the auditing firms in the four countries unify their laws and regulations pertaining to their professions.

They urged the ACC secretariat to grant facilities for auditing and accounting firms to move freely and establish businesses in any of the four countries, and to help them embark on training personnel and exchange expertise that would promote the auditing and accounting business.

The meeting was opened Wednesday by ACC Secretary General Hilmi Nammar who urged the participants to help the four member council in its serious efforts to overcome economic problems and boost national economies.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITION

* An art exhibition by Jordanian artists Khalid Ghawarneh and Abdullah Kamaleh, and the Syrian artist Walid Al Masri at the Housing Bank Art Gallery.

* An art exhibition by Jordanian artist Jafar Oreyef at the Plastic Artists Association.

FILMS

* A Soviet film week which includes films depicting life in the Soviet Union, at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Amman, Baghdad to sign twinning pact

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman and Baghdad will sign a pact paving the way for closer cooperation between them in matters related to municipal and public affairs.

The so-called twinning pact was prepared during talks between municipal officials from the two cities in Baghdad, will be signed in Amman during the current visit of Baghdad's Mayor Khaled Abdul Muneem Rashid to the Jordanian capital which started Thursday..

The mayor, who is accompanied by a delegation from Bag-

hdad Municipality will hold talks with Greater Amman Municipality and Mayor Abdul Rauf Al Rawabdeh on ways to increase bilateral cooperation and to coordinate efforts by municipal authorities in Baghdad, Amman, Sana'a and Cairo — capitals of the four member countries in the Arab Cooperation Council ACC.

Meanwhile the Greater Am-

man Municipality announced that delegations representing Sana'a and Cairo will also be arriving here to hold talks with Rawabdeh.

According to the announcement, questions related to promoting cooperation among the four countries in scientific fields and

short and long term plans for joint action in science and technology will also be discussed — Petra, RSS News.

ARABIC FOR SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

The Language Centre at the University of Jordan announces that the intensive course in modern standard Arabic for speakers of other languages will commence on Sept. 15, and will last for 16 weeks.

The programme is intensive and classes meet in the morning for 20 hours per week, Saturday-Wednesday. The fee for the course is JD 140. The evening course is non-intensive and classes meet six hours per week.

Those interested please call at the Language Centre for registration.

Jordan to receive more U.S. aid to boost private sector's productivity

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan is to receive an additional \$1 million from the United States Agency for International Development USAID to help it stimulate increased productivity in the Kingdom's private sector, according to an agreement signed in Amman Thursday.

private sector assume a greater responsibility for furthering development in Jordan through

— Helping to create additional jobs for skilled and semi-skilled citizens.

— Improving product and service quality in the country and increasing Jordan's exports both regionally and throughout the world.

PETRA project focusses on assisting the Kingdom to address policy constraints to the private sector and industry-level constraint by conducting marketing and risk analysis seminars and funding agri-business and other business assessments, firm level constraints by providing technical assistance and capitals constraints by conducting studies of development finance mechanisms and capital markets.

The agreement Thursday was signed by Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz and U.S. Ambassador Roscoe Suddarth as well as USAID Director in Amman Lewis Reade.

The new grant raises the contributions from the United States government to Jordan's endeavour in the industrial and agricultural fields to \$11 million, according to the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The agency said that the \$10 million, for which an agreement was signed earlier in Amman, were being channelled to the private sector's needs through the Industrial Development Bank, the Cities and Villages Development Bank and the Agricultural Credit Corporation which provide loans to private sector firms wishing to embark on projects to increase production and exports.

Depending on the specific activity, the project can fund technical assistance, studies, commodities and/or training, according to a USAID press release.

It said that the major purpose of the project is to stimulate productivity increases in the Kingdom's private sector.

The project will support efforts by the government to help the



Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz, U.S. Ambassador to Jordan Roscoe Suddarth and USAID Director in Amman Lewis Reade Thursday sign an aid agreement in Amman (Petra photo)

Amman Lewis Reade Thursday sign an aid agreement in Amman (Petra photo)

RSS, local company sign accord

AMMAN — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) is currently undertaking the responsibility of checking up the products of the Jordan Universal Gas Cookers and Washing Machines (JUGCM), in accordance with the one-year agreement RSS signed with the company in July 1989.

The agreement also entrusts RSS with the duty of providing technical advice in improving products and preparing the specifications of any equipment the company intends to buy.

The agreement was signed by RSS president Dr. Hanif Mulki and the company Director General Rashid Makhfuf.

Meanwhile, an RSS statement announced that a meeting by representatives of scientific research centres in the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) countries will start Saturday.

The two day meeting to be held at the RSS offices in Amman will deal with scientific and technological potentials in the four Arab countries — Egypt, Iraq, North Yemen and Jordan — and will review reports on projects to be set up near the Dead Sea to exploit its minerals.

According to the announcement, delegations representing Sana'a and Cairo will also be arriving here to hold talks with Rawabdeh.

REQUIREMENT OF STAFF FOR YEMEN ARAB REPUBLIC

Applications are invited from suitable candidates in the following disciplines for working with Tibame Development Authority (TDA) Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Resources, Yemen Arab Republic. The staff will be assigned to work at Hodeidah — YAR with National Engineering Services Pakistan (Pvt) Limited (NESPAK), Consultants for Wadi Siham Project.

1. Irrigation/Hydraulic Design Engineers
2. Structural Design Engineer
3. Geotechnical Engineer
4. Mechanical Design Engineer
5. Survey Engineer
6. Contract and Procurement Engineer
7. Translator

Qualifications and Experience

1. For Serial Numbers 1 to 5 - Bachelor of Engineering degree with minimum of five years relevant experience.
2. For Serial Number 6 - Bachelor of Engineering degree with minimum of seven years experience in Contract Management and Procurement Services.
3. For Serial Number 7 - Master's degree in Arabic or English with good working knowledge of the other language.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. Persons with higher qualifications and experience will be given preference.
2. TDA will pay per annum salary ranging from US Dollars 12,000 to 18,000 depending upon qualifications and experience.
3. Annual increment of US Dollars 600 is admissible as per rules.
4. TDA will provide housing and furniture or pay US Dollars 350/monthly and US Dollars 1200/once in lieu thereof.
5. TDA will provide tourist Class Air Ticket to Hodeidah and Vice Versa at appointment and termination. Tickets will also be provided to one wife and three children once a year.
6. TDA will pay US Dollars 400 yearly upon presentation of Health Insurance Certificate.
7. Employee is entitled to 30 days annual leave after ten months of service. Casual leave of 12 days is also admissible.
8. Employee is exempted from Income Tax and Local Taxes.
9. Contract will be subject to Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) rules for payment of salary in Yemeni Rials as amended from time to time. Present rule is to pay 50 per cent in Yemeni Rials.

Applications alongwith detailed bio-data, copies of testimonials and experience certificates should be sent to the Vice President, Water and Agriculture Division NESPAK, 11-Albak Block, New Garden Town, Lahore — Pakistan so as to reach within 20 days of publication of this notice.

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Welcome to the Mideast quiz

WHAT IS the latest Israeli stunt to quell the intifada? A plan which envisages continued Israeli occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip until after the year 2,000. What does it entail? Formation of new army units, extension of duration of term of duty for reserve soldiers, emphasis on usage of "smart weapons" with advanced targeting and guidance systems as well as stepped-up military intelligence gathering.

What does it mean? The mighty Israeli army machine is being oiled for a war of annihilation against the "children of the revolution of stones."

What does it herald on the internal Israeli front? Bitterness among a good number of Israeli soldiers, arguments among peace activists, and entrenched positions for the hardliners and extremists.

What does it signal on the occupied territories? Frustration-fuelled extremism among hitherto moderate Palestinians and encouragement to hardliners to escalate armed resistance.

What does Washington have to say? The plan does not help peace efforts. No more, no less.

What message does it send to other supporters of Israel? Shelve your peace moves ladies and gentlemen; Israel knows better than to accept that security lies in coexistence based on accommodation and respect for other's rights.

What does the plan tell the mainstream Palestine leadership? Don't let Arafat waste any more breath going around talking about recognising Israel and the two-state solution. Abandon dreams of a negotiated settlement, step up attacks on Israeli targets with a vengeance and to hell with international opinion; (it hasn't helped much anyway).

What does the Palestinian dissidents say? We told you so. Arafat should now step down and let us take over. We know how to bring Israel to its knees.

What does the international community have to say? Nothing, let us wait and see whether Israel is "really serious" about rejecting any return of land before issuing any comment.

What do the Arabs have to say? We condemn the plan. It is nothing but the latest manifestation of Israel's utter determination to hang onto the occupied territories. Let us call Washington. But we will continue to support the intifada (How? We'll see that in the year 2000 when we get tired of issuing declarations of support for the Palestinians and condemnations of Israeli practices).

Where do we, the Arabs, go from here? Nowhere. Israel wants a war.

Are we ready for it? No, we are committed to peace. And, if not war, where is peace? Vanished into thin air with no trace.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i and Al Dustour daily newspapers discussed in their editorials the situation in the occupied territories. Al Ra'i said that the U.N. Security Council is urged to take action in view of Israel's deportation of Palestinian Arabs because it is the duty of the international community to put an end to Israel's atrocities against the civilian population of Palestine. We have not seen yet any firm move on the part of the council to intervene and end Israel's atrocities which had continued over the past 21 years and end occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the paper noted. It is time that the world community dealt more firmly with Israel's disregard to international laws and human rights principles so that the United Nations organisation can remain a respected forum enjoying credibility and wielding real power in world politics, the paper added. It said regardless of the future of the world, the latest manifestation of Israel's utter determination to hang onto the occupied territories. Let us call Washington. But we will continue to support the intifada (How? We'll see that in the year 2000 when we get tired of issuing declarations of support for the Palestinians and condemnations of Israeli practices).

In Mr. Harries' view, Mr. Fukuyama comes along at just the right moment, when many around the world sense that something momentous is occurring and yearn for convincing explanations that go beyond the current debates over whether the cold war has ended or not.

Arab-American relations: challenges to U.S. ideals

By Frank L. Kaplan

COLORADO — In his book describing the Soviet state and its people, a former Washington Post Moscow correspondent warned readers that comparing the USSR with western states too closely is inevitable but usually irrelevant. "Russians could not live like Englishmen or Americans even if they wanted to, which they do not," wrote Robert G. Kaiser in *Russia: The People and the Power*. "They must live like Russians, which means they cannot turn their society into a copy of ours."

Kaiser's warning is applicable not only to the Soviet Union but also to other countries, including the 20 plus states generally considered as part of the Arab World. Unfortunately, many Americans and other Westerners either fail to understand Kaiser's admonition or refuse to acknowledge its wisdom, whether the reference is to the USSR, Iran, China or Arab states.

Although Americans pride themselves in their self-perceived fair-mindedness and tolerance, they harbour nonetheless a

tendency of distrust in anything different, especially foreign-different, so that anyone espousing non-Western ideological and/or religious views may easily be dubbed anti-democratic and, by association, anti-American.

This is especially true of the Arabs due to the gulf-like differences, evident in practically all societal aspects, that exist between Arab and Western states.

What is more, the U.S. mass media, particularly the entertainment sector, have reinforced a sentiment of antagonism and distrust towards the Arab peoples by exploiting the existing differences and feeding the American public with a steady diet of stereotypes based on myths rather than on fact to satisfy the need for universal villans. One has only to turn to any channel to see that television shows are "full of Arab baddies — billionaires, bombers and belly dancers," said Prof. Jack G. Shaheen in his book, *The TV Arab*. "They are virtually the only TV images of Arabs viewers ever see."

A common error is to equate Iranians with Arabs when in fact

Iranians are Persians, speaking not Arabic but Farsi, an Indo-European language. They are mainly Aryans, not Semites as the Arabs are. And while most news consumers are able to identify Yasser Arafat and Muammar Qaddafi as Arabs, far fewer realise that the 1988 Nobel Prize for Literature was awarded to Egyptian writer Naguib Mahfouz, or that author of *The Prophet Khalil Gibran*, was a Lebanese philosopher and artist who had spent much of his life writing in America.

Arabs, like most groups, have contributed significantly to human development, from inventing the clock and developing the centre of gravity concept to introducing sugar cane and oranges. But viewers seldom see such facts presented on television programmes and reruns that portray myths about the Arabs which Shahine has divided into four categories: "They (Arabs) are fabulously wealthy; they are barbaric and uncultured; they are sex maniacs with a penchant for white slavery; and they revel in acts of terrorism." Such myths have been perpetuated on programmes from "Dallas" to "The Equalizer."

The misrepresentations display not only an ignorance about a strategic global region but also an insensitivity to millions of peoples comprising numerous states, several of which are sympathetic toward the United States. And, seemingly, no one cares.

The obvious question, then, are why the evident distortion, and what can be done to counteract the trend?

Since the United States is one of the largest producers and exporters of television programmes, the dissemination of distorted images about the Arab peoples and their cultures has international implications. This means that not only U.S. but also foreign audiences regularly view television

programmes and reruns that portray myths about the Arabs which Shahine has divided into four categories: "They (Arabs) are fabulously wealthy; they are barbaric and uncultured; they are sex maniacs with a penchant for white slavery; and they revel in acts of terrorism." Such myths have been perpetuated on programmes from "Dallas" to "The Equalizer."

But the mass media and, especially, their advertisers should be held accountable for their actions, and subjected to constant criticism and demands that television programming in particular be responsible. As television critic, the Rev. Donald E. Wildmon, explained in his June 19 interview with Time magazine, it is far more effective to deal with television advertisers than with the networks when attempting to affect programming. "Advertisers don't give you a cold shoulder," he said. "They want to be your friends."

Whether in the realm of entertainment or news, which increasingly are becoming blurred through the medium of commercial television, the conscious misrepresentation of societies and peoples, such as the Arabs, should be continually challenged. The criticism should emanate from responsible scholars, journalists, civic leaders and, most importantly, media consumers until media decision-makers are fully committed to the principle that the responsibility of the press, radio and television is not only to inform but also to educate the public about foreign events, and the countries in which they occur.

No less responsible for challenging media stereotyping are the nation's universities, especially the many schools and departments of journalism and mass communication. Collectively, they should serve as the watchdog of the media, just as the mass media portray themselves as the watchdog of government.

For false imagery and stereotyping is unworthy of any major institution of a nation built on democratic principles, ethnic diversity and religious tolerance, and one which regards itself as the world's chief defender of human rights — Arab News.

Judging 'post-history,' the theory to end all theories

By Richard Bernstein

FIRST came postmodernism, which stems from the idea that there can no longer be anything newer in the arts than what has already been created. Now a State Department official, Francis Fukuyama, has caused a stir among intellectuals with his thesis that the period of "post-history" has arrived. With the decline of fascism and Communism, he argues, Western liberal democracy has triumphed and mankind has reached its highest wisdom. History has come to an end.

This startling concept, announced by Mr. Fukuyama, the deputy director of the State Department's policy planning staff and a former analyst for the Rand Corporation, in the current issue of *The National Interest* magazine, seems like one of those crystallisations of thought that, like postmodernism itself, could become part of the "common vocabulary in some circles."

But Mr. Fukuyama goes further in stressing not so much the force of circumstances but the power of ideas.

For the past century or so, both Marxists and many conservatives — the latter group he calls the "Wall Street Journal school of deterministic materialism" — have explained the world in terms of economic forces. Phenomena like economic reform in the Soviet Union and China have been seen as responses to failing economies and intensifying uncompetitiveness.

Of course there will still be events, he adds, and many countries, including the Soviet Union and China, will take a long time to adopt Western liberalism. But slowly, inevitably, the Western idea will spread, imposing itself on a globe that will be unable to resist its power.

Many thinkers have postulated that the West has won and that democracy is inevitable in all the major countries — or, at least, that those countries that cling to discredited and dictatorial ideologies will remain outside the historical mainstream, backward and uncompetitive.

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Hegel, whose philosophy is difficult even by German standards and who is amply cited by Mr. Fukuyama, has become something of a fashion in Washington.

The columnist George Will recently expounded on Mr. Fukuyama's ideas in *Newsweek*. The Washington Post printed an abridgment of *The National Interest* essay.

Owen Harries, an editor at the quarterly, said that the Soviet Union's Institute for Canadian and American Affairs had contacted Mr. Fukuyama about publishing his article. Translations are to appear in France, Japan, Italy and the Netherlands.

Why the fascination with an

essay that includes some rather arcane philosophical references, discussing the competing roles of "materialism" and "idealism" as forces in world history, and offers no concrete prescriptions for national policy?

In Mr. Harries' view, Mr. Fukuyama comes along at just the right moment, when many around the world sense that something momentous is occurring and yearn for convincing explanations that go beyond the current debates over whether the cold war has ended or not.

Home-grown politics

"Up to now, the attempts to explain what is happening have been inadequate and parochial, tied to the cold war and the premises of the cold war," Mr. Harries said. "What Fukuyama has done is to de-parochialise the whole discussion and link what has happened currently with the broader sweep of history."

What is happening, of course, are economic and political reforms in the Soviet Union, the improvement of relations between East and West, and the decline of socialism in Eastern Europe and the Third World. There is also what Mr. Fukuyama calls the "inevitable spread of consumerist Western culture" everywhere in the world from China to Iran — even under the ayatollahs — leading to an eventual and inevitable "universal homogeneous state."

Taken together, these changes

might appear to be parts of a new stage of history, the passing of the post-war world. But Mr. Fukuyama sees something far more important, namely, he says "the end point of mankind's ideological evolution and the universalisation of Western liberal democracy."

It is telling, he says, that post-

modernism has tried to reassess what he calls "the autonomous power of ideas."

The Hegelian notion of history that was unpeeled by Marx and who worked for the last 13 years in the Israeli town of Kiryat Gat. Neighbours echoed his defiance.

Jamal last went to the Potgi textile factory two weeks ago. He said his employers warned him that if he stayed away more than a week, he would lose his job.

"We will eat weeds if we have to," said Jamal, a father of eight in the squall Shati refugee camp,

in the Israeli town of Kiryat Gat. Neighbours echoed his defiance.

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Palestinian development projects are never far removed from politics

Walking a tightrope in the West Bank and Gaza

By Mark Newmark

THE CAR was trapped. Small boulders the size of sheep blocked the road just ahead. When the car reversed, it soon encountered a second rock pile that had been haphazardly thrown up a kilometre to the rear. The occupants had only one choice: get out, clear a path and brave the likelihood of a deluge of stone-throwing as intense as a mortar barrage.

Avalanche? No. This was not the Alps or Himalayas. This was Bir Zeit, a village north of Ramallah in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, and this was March 30 — Land Day — when Palestinians commemorate the deaths of six of their number in a protest over land rights in 1976.

Land Day has become a date of special significance on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip in the 18-month history of the Palestinian uprising — the intifada. Non-co-operation with the occupying forces and Israeli settlers has reached its peak on this day. Palestinian businesses close their doors. Non-military transport stops — but not vehicles of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), whose neutral role compels it to remain above the Arab-Israeli conflict. UNDP's Programme of Assistance to the Palestinian People (PAPP), tries to function even on Land Day; the trapped car was attempting to ferry PAPP staff from their homes in West Bank villages to the office in Jerusalem.

The rock barricade is symbolic of numerous obstacles PAPP has to deal with in its day-to-day operations in the West Bank and Gaza. The stoning of U.N. cars — unlike vehicles of the Israeli army, police and settlers — is not a regular occurrence, but it has happened. Intifada groups do not look kindly on U.N. vehicles travelling through strike areas. Hence the anxious moments spent clearing a path through the

robbles blocking the road at Bir Zeit.

Strikes not only restrict U.N. staff movements but make precise project scheduling virtually impossible. PAPP's records reveal that a third of every work week has been lost to disruptions of one sort or another since the intifada began. In order to aid employment and boost the local economy in the two territories, PAPP's policy is to award all construction contracts to Palestinians, and these contractors feel obliged to honour the strikes — which sometimes last for days on end.

To exacerbate the situation, suppliers in Israel, who offer the most reasonably-priced materials, often refuse credit to Palestinian contractors and demand cash on delivery — cash the contractor seldom has. Even when materials are finally procured, equipment is not always available to employ them. It is not unknown for the Israeli army to commandeer U.N.-contracted construction vehicles to clear intifada barricades.

Theo there's the curfew. Neighbourhoods considered particularly troublesome by Israel are often put under curfew by the occupying forces for days at a time, with free movement permitted only briefly once a day. At such times, the only people seen on the street are women scurrying to gather provisions before the deadline is up. U.N. personnel are banned from entering curfew areas, which are often the very places that the PAPP team has pinpointed as in most urgent need of assistance. Rashid Khouri, a PAPP engineer on the Gaza Strip, points to just such an area inside the Jabalia refugee camp as his car joins along the pot-hole pitted road around the camp's perimeter. "In there," he says, "the effluent of more than 50,000 refugees runs through open drainage ditches to an uncovered

Support

For those who have already fallen prey to the unsanitary conditions, treatment at health centres throughout the occupied territories were, until recently, almost as rudimentary as the sewers. But working with the World Health Organisation (WHO), PAPP has added new equipment to three hospitals and the Central Laboratory in the Gaza Strip. Four hospitals and a nursing

lake of raw sewage in the middle of the camp. Children play by the lakes so it's a big health hazard. We have a project to install sewage pipes and a pumping station to drain the lake, but since the camp is often under curfew, it's taking a long time to complete. It's under curfew right now."

Khouri stops at a pumping station just outside the camp where an old man, barely able to walk and with failing eyes, guards the gate. "We've just completed this pumping station," says Khouri. "It's working but we'll be handing it over to the Municipal Authority soon, and the Authority doesn't have the money or the staff to look after it properly. There should be at least one full-time technician here but there's only this old man."

The station is one of three in the area which will eventually pump the sewage of some 85,000 people in Gaza's northern region to a treatment plant near Gaza City. The system should be capable of handling the wastes of a population that is expected to double by the end of the century.

Two-thirds of the \$3.5 million cost of the project is being put up by UNDP and the remainder by AGFUND — the Arab Gulf Fund for U.N. Development Activities. A further \$20 million will be needed to install sewage and treatment facilities for high priority areas on the rest of the Gaza Strip and the West Bank.

To function at all, PAPP is obliged by the Israeli government to have all its projects cleared by the Ministry of Defence, which in turn has overall control of the Occupied Territories. Delicate but firm negotiation is required for every project PAPP wants to support — an experience that PAPP Programme Director Nikita Nevrodi has had time to perfect, having held the position since the programme's start in 1980. This helps explain why PAPP has been able to initiate politically sensitive projects like the building of a new fisheries

training centre on the West Bank

have also been upgraded.

Education and vocational training have been supported as well. UNDP has equipped 120 kindergartens, built 12 new classrooms for boys and 44 for girls, responding to the special need for improving education for women. Men now receive technical training in such fields as electronics and auto mechanics, while women are acquiring skills in hairdressing and secretarial services.

To date, PAPP has received over \$25 million from UNDP. Other contributions have come from AGFUND and the governments of Canada, Italy, Japan and Tunisia. The International Labour Organisation, WHO, and the United Nations Population Fund have also financed PAPP projects.

Still, PAPP's work in Palestinian areas is not always understood. While the main beneficiaries of the improvements have been Palestinians, these same beneficiaries have sometimes accused PAPP and UNDP of working "in league" with the Israeli government on health projects.

The hospitals, they point out, are Israeli-owned, and hence it could be construed that UNDP money is being used to improve Israeli property when it should be going to Palestinians alone.

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complex on the Gaza Strip and the improvement of water supplies to villages on the West Bank.

"We don't operate like any other UNDP office," says Nevrodi. "We're not accredited to any government. Neither do we deal with other U.N. agencies in implementing our programme, because they are not allowed in elsewhere. UNDP shapes its projects to fit into a country's overall development plan. Here, there is no development plan. We have to go out and identify our own projects."

Nevrodi needed all his powers of persuasion to obtain Israel's approval for a new fisheries complex on Gaza City's beach. The installation includes a modern fish market, an ice-making plant and a refrigeration store — all within a fishing rod's cast of an Israeli army post.

Yet, the fisherman's needs are only being partly met. Following the Camp David peace agreement with Egypt in 1979, the strategic importance of the coastal stretch along the Gaza Strip prompted Israel to impose tight

control over the area. In keeping with the agreement, fishermen need special Israeli permits to work the offshore waters, and are banned from being on the shore at night.

Before Camp David, over 1,200 fishermen worked an area of over 2,000 square kilometres, often casting nets as far south as the Egyptian ports of Alexandria and Port Said. Today, they are not allowed into Egyptian waters and their fishing area has shrunk to 468 square kilometres. The average catch has dwindled from up to 40 tonnes a day to little more than four tonnes, and the ice-making plant, capable of making 12,000 kg. of ice in one 12-hour shift, needs to operate only once a week to supply ice for the shrinking catch.

PAPP's staff at the complex retain an unshakable belief in the project, confident that Egyptian waters will eventually be opened up to the fishermen. Moreover, active negotiations are in progress to build a UNDP-financed harbour near the complex to reduce wear and tear on fishing

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boats, which currently have to be beached every night.

That is pretty cash compared to the funds needed to initiate all the projects PAPP wants to see in place in Gaza and the West Bank. Almost \$57 million is being sought for these activities over and above the \$14 million already committed for the 1987-1991 period.

Since it is the only inter-governmental development organisation delivering substantial technical assistance to the West Bank and Gaza, PAPP identifies projects based on ideas from local municipalities and professions: organisations, as well as followers of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, as required by the U.N. General Assembly.

Despite problems emanating from both sides of the ideological divide, PAPP's delicate fence straddling appears to be working to everyone's benefit. Now that the foundations for development in the Occupied Territories are finally being laid, the time might be right to borrow a word from the intifada vocabulary — "soumoud" — meaning hold firm.

— UNDP

Museum depicts American soldiers as taloned torturers

By Kathy Wilhelm,
The Associated Press

SINCHON, North Korea — Blood, blue-eyed American soldiers with wolf-like grins, claws for hands and long, hooked noses leer from the walls of the war museum in rural Sinchon county.

The passage of 36 years has not softened North Koreans' attitudes toward the army they maintained.

Their war against the Chinese-aided north and U.N.-backed south.

In the 11 rooms of the Sinchon museum, North Korea presents what it says is evidence that American soldiers of the U.N. force killed 35,383 civilians while occupying the country for 52 days from October to Dec. 7, 1950.

The claims never have been investigated by neutral parties, nor have claims in South Korea that northern forces committed similar atrocities. The sides, divided at the end of World War II when Japanese forces withdrew, remain technically at war. The fighting was ended only by truce,

not a peace treaty.

Sinchon museum guides tell the stoic stories with impassioned conviction to about 1,000 North Korean visitors each day, many of them schoolchildren, reinforcing the prevailing image here of the United States as a warmonger bent on exterminating all Koreans.

Glass cases hold fire-charred cloth shoes said to be from women and children locked in storerooms without food or water and eventually burned to death by the Americans.

Other cases hold swatches of black hair, some still braided and caked with mud, said to have been recovered from the corpses of women weighted down by stones and thrown into a reservoir.

There is a dagger said to have been used to cut out the eyeballs of civilians, and a gasoline can with USA on the side that allegedly was used to start one of the massive fires.

The horrific accounts are illustrated by artist reconstructions in which all the Americans are

blond, with impossibly long, hooked noses and evil grins.

The soldiers allegedly drove into a local official, sawed off the head of a teacher and tied a worker to two horse-drawn carts, then sent the horses in opposite directions.

The worker's son, Chu Sang-Won, then 5 years old, is said to have been one of only two children who survived a mass burning of 400 women and 102 children in two brick storerooms Dec. 7, 1950, the final day of occupation.

The younger Chu, now 43 and with three children of his own, gives tours at the museum and daily retells the story of the burning.

"I was covered by a thick blanket. It was very cold," Chu said. "Suddenly there was a big noise, everything was burnt and I lost consciousness." He said he was protected by the blanket and dead bodies. His mother burned to death, he said.

He told his story briefly, with no sign of emotion. "I hate those who committed such a cold-blooded massacre," he said, but

he was among Beijng-based journalists recently invited to visit by the North Korean government as it shows signs of wanting to end its long isolation.

A year later, Ramstein air tragedy a haunted memory, point of protest

By Kevin Costelloe
The Associated Press

RAMSTEIN, West Germany — The crash of a stunt-flying team one year ago at the Ramstein air show has become a haunting memory for survivors and a rallying point for critics opposed to low-level military flights.

Disaster struck Aug. 28, 1988,

when a flaming jet performing stunts before more than 300,000 spectators, hurtled into a crowd at the U.S. air base in Ramstein, killing at least 70 people and injuring about 450 others.

"I have to learn to forget, but I can't because of Karin," says 24-year-old Thomas Wenzel, whose fiancee was among the victims. "I ask myself over and over whether she suffered for a long time or whether she died instantly."

Wenzel was only slightly injured although he stood nearby.

Yet many of the injured suffered severe burns.

Critics insist a lack of coordination between West Germans and Americans hampered rescue

efforts, while others say compensation to victims and their relatives is being paid at a snail's pace.

And in the months following the disaster, "Ramstein" has become a rallying cry for critics of low-level military flights in West Germany.

About 1,000 demonstrators marched Aug. 13 at Ramstein to protest.

The demonstration came despite the observation by NATO and U.S. officials that the Italian Frecce Tricolori team involved in the accident had nothing to do with the military flights.

"Never again" and "Stop low-level flights," read some of the banners unfurled in the march led by the leftist group "let us not forget."

The demonstrators also carried 70 crucifixes symbolising the dead.

Later the group watched a mock hearing, complete with a five-member jury, that harshly criticised West German and U.S. officials involved in planning the air show.

Ramstein's conservative mayor Julius Divivier had refused to let the group use the town hall for the event, saying it reminded him of the "show trials" of the Nazi era.

Compensation denied

One of those who testified was Edna Kreutzer, who complained she was being refused compensation for the lost wages she was expecting from her 23-year-old son, Aloisius, one of the 61 West Germans killed.

"He was a miner with a good job and he made a lot of money," said the 52-year-old woman said in a later interview. She works nights bundling newspapers to make ends meet for her family, including her crippled, 80-year-old mother.

The ZDF television network says officials have received 1,500 claims for compensation, but so far only half have been settled.

\$8.1 million have been paid out so far. The total sum will be several times that, ZDF said in an Aug. 23 report.

"Many of those affected complain about unreasonable red tape and petty inquiries — the result of an obsolete compensation system that imposes strict limits on officials."

As part of observances for the anniversary, oaths of the month Atlantic treaty organisation are grounding all military training missions in the usually crowded skies over West Germany.

In Bonn, conservative lawmakers are at odds with the Social Democrats (SPD) over the direction of a special commission that has been investigating the crash.

But the SPD rejects criticism it is using the commission in hope of exploiting anti-military sentiment ahead of next year's national elections.

"We want to be sure that Ramstein never occurs again," said SPD defence expert Erwin Horn recently.

The U.S. Air Force held an anniversary remembrance at the Ramstein base, remembering victims including the four Americans killed.

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Economy

Summer sales take Cairo by storm

Egypt implements creative accounting to round IMF

CAIRO (R) — Walking a political tightrope towards foreign exchange reform, Egypt is using creative accounting to avoid unpopular price rises for wheat, flour and cooking oil, economists say.

Under pressure from the International Monetary Fund (IMF), Egypt last month raised its central bank rate, an artificially low exchange rate which acts as a hidden subsidy on prices.

"The IMF has always said that if Egypt had the budget resources to do so, it could protect sensitive commodities when the central bank rate was changed," one economist said.

On paper at least, staple commodities should have leaped in price in line with the rise in the rate by more than a half.

But Egypt has instead kept wheat, flour and cooking oil prices down through an accounting trick which allows it to keep diverting earnings from state-owned companies into subsidies.

It thus managed to go part of the way to meet IMF demands to increase the rate without increasing discontent over the country's most sensitive political issue — the price of bread.

Bread prices have already crept up due to other moves to cut subsidies. But Egypt, where a rise in bread prices in 1977 sparked major riots, is keen to avoid too sharp an increase.

But economists said the move might not be enough to satisfy the IMF, whose endorsement is needed by Egypt before it can reschedule some of its \$50 billion of foreign debt.

However, tea and sugar — which also take major shares of the average family's weekly outlays — do not appear to have been granted the same protection.

Negotiations with the IMF are expected to resume this month. But whatever the differences, experts say the system to protect bread and oil prices less likely to be a sticking point.

Meanwhile, many Egyptians in a rocky economy find it difficult to balance dwindling incomes with soaring prices, but they do have one window of opportunity — the summer sales.

Cairo's shops and department stores are experiencing an unprecedented surge of business during the frenzied summer month when retailers cast off old stock at rock-bottom prices.

"Our sales have more than tripled during the past two weeks, although this is only our third sales season," said Wadie Naguib, manager at a private clothing shop in the Egyptian capital.

"People queue from the early morning to get a shirt, a suit or pyjamas because we offer real discounts of up to 80 per cent."

The IMF wants the central bank rate abolished quickly, with all transactions carried out at the single higher rate. But Egyptian newspapers say a six-year phase-out is planned.

The central bank rate is applied to key imports and to revenues from the Suez Canal company and the state oil company. By understating the revenues, Egypt can offset the lower price of imports in a book-keeping exercise.

In effect, revenue from the two state-run foreign exchange earners is used to hold down the price of staple foods.

Under the system introduced last month, economists say imports and revenues will be calculated at the new rate.

But the state-owned companies will actually be paid at the old

rate. The remaining extra 0.40 pounds will be retained in special accounts to pay for subsidies in the price of wheat, flour and edible oil.

However, tea and sugar — which also take major shares of the average family's weekly outlays — do not appear to have been granted the same protection.

Low-income Egyptians hunting for 'bargains'



Low-income Egyptians hunting for 'bargains'

told Reuters.

Police watch hunters

Police provide security for many central shops thronged with enthusiastic crowds of shoppers eagerly hunting for bargains.

Store windows throughout the sprawling city of more than 12 million people are covered with huge signs proclaiming "sale" and "50 per cent discount."

Egypt has an annual inflation rate at more than 25 per cent, unemployment is growing and industrial production is in the doldrums.

"I only buy essentials all the year round. But I really go shopping during sales," said housewife Omayma Abdul Rehim.

Marta Metri, sales manager at Omar Effendi, one of Cairo's

biggest state-owned chains, said there had been a sharp rise in business during the summer sales season.

Marriage season

Many people preferred to wait for the winter and summer sales in order to cut costs, he told Reuters. Shopowners also benefited by getting rid of outdated stocks and boosting cash reserves.

Metri added: "More young people on the threshold of marriage buy their needs during the sales season because they can save a lot of money."

Jordan hotels increase rates

AMMAN (J.T.) — Visitors to Jordan will pay up to 50 per cent

more for their hotel rooms from Saturday until their holidays months of 1989, compared with 62,000 in the whole of 1988. This year's visitors spent an average 4.9 nights in Jordan, against an average 4.6 nights last year, ministry figures show.

Tour operators have already block-booked the better hotels at Jordan's most popular tourist draws, the Red Sea beach at Aqaba and the ancient ruins of Petra, from October until May.

An acute shortage of hotel beds at these key attractions is hampering growth in the tourist industry, a vital source of foreign exchange for the Kingdom.

Preliminary central bank figures show tourists earnings last year at 230 million dinars (\$620 million at 1988 exchange rates), compared with visible exports worth 325 million dinars (\$875 million).

However, Jordanians spent 178 million dinars (\$480 million) abroad last year, cutting net revenue from tourism to 52 million dinars (\$144 million).

The government expects the outflow to drop this year because the devalued dinar means fewer Jordanians can afford to travel. It is trying to encourage domestic tourism as an alternative.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Abu Dhabi turns away Australian sheep

ABU DHABI (AP) — The emir of Abu Dhabi had rejected 17,000 head of Australian sheep after tests showed they were diseased. The emirates news agency, WAM, quoted officials as saying the sheep had been found by clinical tests to be carrying Maize fever. Arrangements were being made to re-export the animals, they said. Abu Dhabi became the second Gulf trade partner after Saudi Arabia to reject Australian sheep recently on grounds that they were diseased, a claim that Australian officials have vehemently denied. Australia suspended five sheep deliveries to Saudi Arabia after the Saudis turned away five shiploads of more than 200,000 animals, saying they carried viruses known as bluetongue disease and sheep pox. All of those sheep later were bought by other countries including Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Oman and other emirates. Local news reports quoted officials as saying the 17,000 rejected by Abu Dhabi were among those rejected previously by the Saudis. Medical experts said Maize fever, a mild form of brucellosis, is a bacterial infection as opposed to a virus.

'Walesa wants investments, not just aid'

THE HAGUE (R) — U.S. Senator Robert Dole said Friday that Poland needed more Western investment, rather than more aid, to help reform its economy. Asked how he thought it best to help Poland, he said: "What Walesa wants is banks to open, credit, investments. He's more interested in that than in aid." Bush pledged during a trip to Poland in July to provide \$119 million in economic aid. "I don't think you measure success by spending more dollars... if everyone pours in aid (into Poland) and they become an international welfare client, they won't be better off than they are now," he said.

Brunei gives Manila \$100 loan

MANILA (R) — Brunei has agreed to lend the Philippines \$100 million to help reduce its debt and cope with its balance of payments. Senators belonging to President Aquino's ruling coalition confirmed the loan during a senate debate in which they denied opposition charges that Aquino had tried to keep the transaction secret. Aquino said the loan was payable in 18 years with seven years grace, bore three per cent interest per annum payable quarterly, and carried a zero interest default rate. Aquino, whose government is saddled with a \$28 billion foreign debt, did not say when the loan was negotiated. "This highly concessional loan has been made available for broad balance of payments, debt reduction and project purposes of the Philippine government and is fully utilized as to procurement from any source in the world," Aquino said. "The Kingdom of Brunei has requested that this transaction be handled with the utmost discretion which I am requesting from your office."

Prague holds first hard currency auction

PRAGUE (R) — Czechoslovak state enterprises bought U.S. dollars for seven times their official rate at the country's first hard currency auction, the Communist Party newspaper Kuda Pravo has said. Thirty-four enterprises participated in the experimental auction by the Czechoslovak Commercial Bank. They paid 105 crowns per dollar against an official exchange rate of around 15 crowns, the party daily said. Demand was 27 times greater than the amount on offer, it said, adding the auctions now would be held on a monthly basis. Companies not involved in exports previously had no way of obtaining hard currency for capital investment. The auction also provides companies which have acquired hard currency with an opportunity to sell it at a profit, the paper said.

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Joe Piscopo in

Show: 3:30, 5:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30, WISE GUYS

JIJONAH Cinema

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Clint Eastwood in
DIRTY HARRY • IN THE DEAD POOL

Show: 12:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00

PLAZA Cinema

Tel: 677420

RED SCORPION

Performance: 3:30, 8:30, 10:30 p.m.

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 1988

Jordan hotels increase rates

als," Hikmat said.

Package tours brought 39,000 tourists to Jordan in the first six months of 1989, compared with 62,000 in the whole of 1988. This year's visitors spent an average 4.9 nights in Jordan, against an average 4.6 nights last year, ministry figures show.

Tour operators have already block-booked the better hotels at Jordan's most popular tourist draws, the Red Sea beach at Aqaba and the ancient ruins of Petra, from October until May.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

TYSON'S NEXT DEFENCE: Mike Tyson's next heavyweight title defense, against Razor Ruddock, will be held in Canada on Nov. 18, a group of promoters from that country said Thursday. Sonny McPhie, who heads the group, said he had agreed to pay \$3 million to Don King, Tyson's promoter, for the rights to the fight against Ruddock, a Canadian. King had been searching for a site promoter since a Las Vegas hotel said the fight was not worth what King was asking.

ZARAGOZA RETAINS TITLE: Mexico's Daniel Zaragoza retained his World Boxing Council super bantamweight title on Thursday when he stopped 10th-ranked Frankie Duarte of the United States in the 10th round of a scheduled 12-round bout in Los Angeles.

ELLIOTT AND CRAM DUEL: Steve Cram and Peter Elliott will duel under the Australian sun to decide which of them runs the 1,500 metres for England at next year's Commonwealth games, it was announced Wednesday. The sudden-death run-off between Olympic silver medalist Elliott and defending Commonwealth champion Cram over the metric mile will take place at a track meet in Australia just before next January's games in Auckland, New Zealand.

PAKISTAN SWEEPS SEMIFINALS: World champion Jahangir Khan led Pakistan to a sweep of the semifinal places at the Pakistan Open squash championship Thursday in Karachi. On a day of few surprises, the top four seeds — Jahangir, arch-rival Jansher Khan, Umar Hayat Khan and Mir Zaman Gul — had little trouble beating their opponents in straight games. Top-seeded Jahangir took just 44 minutes to dispose of eighth seed Phil Kenyon of Britain 15-5, 15-4, 15-5. Second seed Jansher made light work of 12th seed Fred Johnson of Sweden 15-5, 15-5, 15-4, while third-seeded Umar Hayat ousted another Swede, Anders Wahlestedt. In the longest and closest match of the day, Mir Zaman Gul defeated compatriot Zarak Jahan Khan 15-13, 15-13, 15-10 in 63 minutes.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF

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ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠KJ6 ♦873 ♣AQ65 ♤93
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1 ♠ 2 ♡ ?
What do you bid now?
A.—The choice is between a gross overbid, three diamonds, and a slight underbid, two spades. Since gross overbids lead to major disasters, we would opt for the conservative two spades in the hope of getting a chance to catch up later.
Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠AQ1073 ♦AKJ ♣Q107 ♤K2
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♡ Pass
? What do you bid now?
A.—Your hand values to 17 points, so you are worth a try for game. We would bid three diamonds, asking partner to evaluate his holding in that suit for game purposes.
Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold: ♠A9874 ♦KJ6 ♣K3 ♤AQ7
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 3 ♡ Pass
? What do you bid now?
A.—Your task is to warn partner that you have no fit, a thin suit and values in the unbid suits. The way to get all that information across in one fell swoop is to bid three no trump.
Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠97 ♦AKJ95 ♣63 ♤AQ4
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass



TAKING TIME OFF: His Majesty King Hussein chats with Her Royal Highness Princess Haya and His Royal Highness Prince Ali during a break in Friday's Ramman hillclimb in which the King participated (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

King breaks hillclimb record but comes second in points

By Nur Sati
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — For the second time in 21 years, Rumman hills came back to life Friday when hundreds of people thronged the area to watch the annual hill climb with the participation of 49 drivers, among whom was His Majesty King Hussein, who broke his 1988 record but was placed second in total points.

Competition was heated and the excited spectators munched on their hamburgers and hotdogs as they tried to catch glimpses of the cars racing past.

Michel Saleh won the event with a timing of 4:05:77; King Hussein came in second with only fractions of a second behind (4:05:92). Mohammed Al Saleh scored 4:08:90, and His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah notched 4:09:12. The other winners were listed as Bill Gwynne with 4:17:76, Haitham Al Mufri 4:17:81, George Khayyat 4:18:04, Sharif Jamil 4:22:01, Issa Halaby 4:22:69 and Suhail Marrar 4:27:34.

Participants were divided into four categories according to the size of the engine. The first category had 20 participants with cars with engine size of 1,600 cubic centimetres, the second consisted of 10 participants with an engine size of 2,000 cc; the third one included seven participants with an engine size of over 2,000 cc. In

the fourth category of 12 participants, the engine size fell into the second category but without any specific engine capacity.

Drivers were divided into two groups, each driver with a chance of three rounds in the three kilometres stretch.

Though King Hussein broke his earlier record with a time of 2:02.42 points were added up when he was placed.

"Competing with my own record gives me not only satisfaction, but also the incentive to continue practising this sport," King Hussein told reporters present at the rally.

King Hussein has been a constant participant and the record holder since the climb was first started in the early 60s.

"For such an event 'time, experience, and training' is the key to getting better results," he said.

The rough competition did not discourage females from taking part in the climb. Though they

did not rank within the first 10 winners, the sole women's team — Melia Asfour and Raja Keilani — voiced optimism about their results.

"The fact that we have to run around looking for a sponsor and a trainer did not put us off and it would be nice to see more women getting involved," Melia Asfour said.

Doing the demonstration run for the climb was the holder of the 1984 Swedish world championship, Stig Blomqvist. He finished with a remarkable time of 1:53.97.

"The road is smooth," he said. Compared to European hillclimbs, it is equally as good."

Kasparov, Ribli draw

SKELEFTEA, Sweden (R) — Soviet world chess champion Garry Kasparov failed to spot a winning chance against Hungary's Zoltan Ribli in the 14th round of the world cup chess tournament on Thursday, setting instead for a draw.

With just one round left to play, Kasparov was half a point ahead of his arch rival and compatriot Anatoly Karpov and Britain's Nigel Short, although he was already assured of overall

victory in the world cup series.

After Kasparov's match on Thursday fellow Soviet player Rafael Vaganian stepped forward and pointed out how the world champion could have won the game.

Most other players drew their matches, excepting being Britain's John Nunn who beat Jan Ekvest from the Soviet Union.

The Skeleftea tournament is

the final in a series in which 16 top chess players have participated.

Al Zahra' Dormitory for female students and employees

Announces the start of registration and reservation for 1989-1990.



— Monthly rent starts from JD 25.

— The dormitory includes spacious halls for study and reception.

— The dormitory consists of rooms, and each room contains a separate kitchen, refrigerator, as well as electric and household appliances.

— The dormitory is supplied with a central heating system.

Hot water is available daily.

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THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"I guess I've been acting pretty crabby today. Even my shadow is mad at me!"

JUMBLE.

THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME
by Henri-Arnold and Bob Lee

You'll love me when I'm old and gray?

LULBY

IGNAT

OSANTA

MEEDUR

HE PROMISED FIRST THAT HE WOULD BE THIS.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: THE

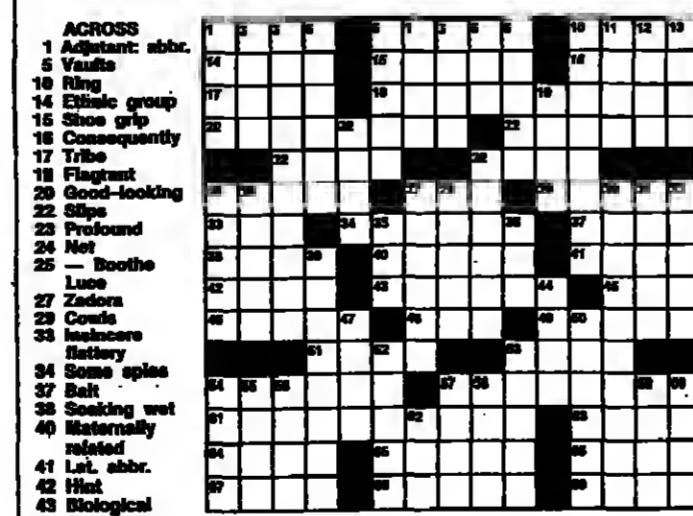
(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumble: SORRY LATCH BECKON PUDDLE

Answer: What David decided to do when Goliath started looking tired—“ROCK” HIM TO SLEEP.

THE Daily Crossword

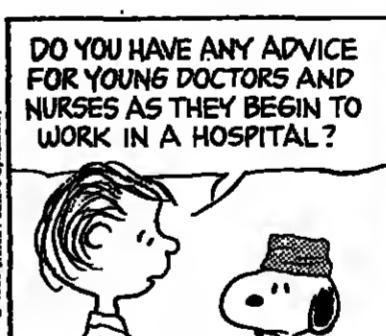
by Roger Coborn



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



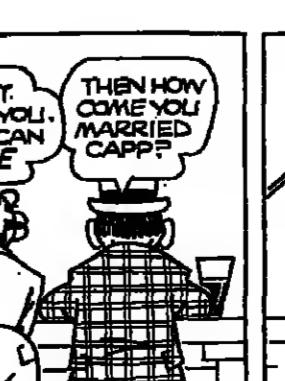
Peanuts

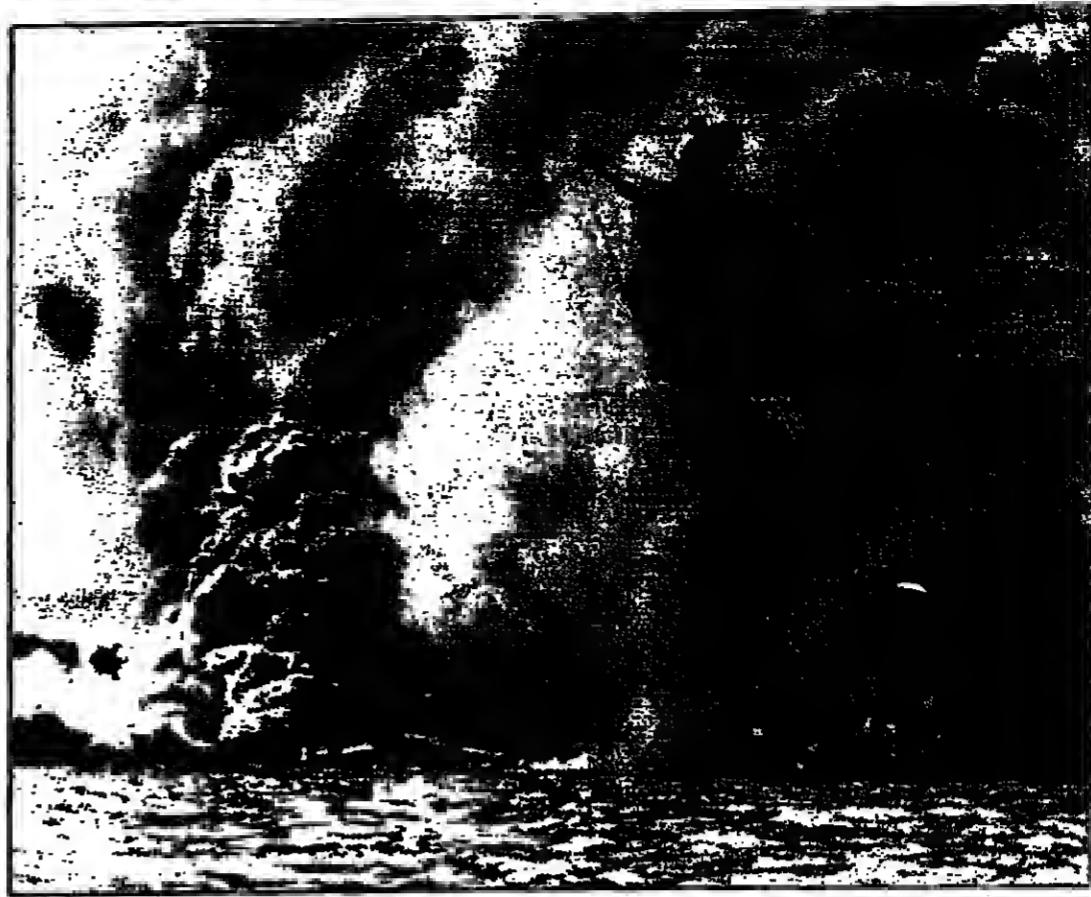


Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp





(Left): Hitler's troops retreat from the Soviet Union. (Right): The burning hulk of the USS Arizona sinks into Pearl Harbour after the Japanese bombed it.

Europeans remember victims of World War II

FRANKFURT (AP) — Europeans Friday paid solemn tribute to the millions of victims of World War II, which started exactly 50 years ago when a German warship opened fire on a tiny Polish garrison.

In Bonn, Chancellor Helmut Kohl reminded parliament and a group of special guests from Poland of the "unspeakable suffering" caused by the Germans.

All week, European newspapers have been filled with retrospectives and commentaries on Sept. 1, 1939 the day that Hitler unleashed the conflagra-

tion that claimed more than 50 million lives and spread to all parts of the globe.

By the time the war was over,

the Nazis had shocked the world

with the extermination of six million people and the United States had forever changed warfare by dropping nuclear bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945.

"We feel sorry for the unspeakable suffering which was caused to human beings and nations in the name of the Germans and by the hand of the Germans," Kohl told a special session of the West German parliament in Bonn.

The chancellor added: "We mourn for the many innocent victims from within our own people."

His audience included a group

of young Poles in the visitors gallery. They had been invited as a sign of reconciliation between West Germany and Poland,

which suffered more than any

other country from the Nazi atrocities.

Some of the most closely watched events were scheduled in Poland.

President Wojciech Jaruzelski was to speak at Westerplatte on the Baltic Coast, where the first shots were fired.

"We will pay homage to all

victims of the war, we will pay

homage to its heroes, and we will

express the will to live in peace," said Wladimir Lozinski, a spokesman for Jaruzelski.

American conductor Leonard

Bernstein was to lead an internationally televised memorial concert in Warsaw, and Pope John Paul II was to address fellow Poles in Warsaw by a TV hook-up.

But a prayer service in Warsaw, designed to bring together members of the world's dominant religions to pray for peace, appeared likely to be marred by a boycott by Poland's only rabbi.

Rabbi Menachem Joskowicz said he would stay away because the Roman Catholic Church has not removed a convert from the Auschwitz concentration camp,

where mainly Jews were killed.

In Milan, the Corriere Della Sera, Italy's leading newspaper, called Hitler's blitzkrieg "the technology of a new Genghis Khan,"

the treacherous Mongol conqueror of

central Asia.

Corriere Della Sera noted that

Hider had the support of the "German masses," and said

European political clout plunged

after World War II.

Italy under fascist dictator Benito Mussolini was allied with Nazi Germany during the war.

The communist East German leadership recalled the sufferings

of the Nazi victims: communists, social democrats, liberals, Christians and Jews.

East Germany's Communist Party daily newspaper Neues Deutschland said their "million-dollar annihilation is still hard to describe with words today."

Many of Belgium's 5.7 million Dutch speakers Friday woke to the sound of Hitler declaring war on Poland, as BRT state radio opened its foreign news on early-morning broadcasts with a tape of the original declaration. That was followed by the sounds of Germans cheering their Fuehrer.

COLLUM 10

Brando fed up with movies

TORONTO (AP) — American actor Marlon Brando, who hasn't appeared on screen in nine years, says the film he just finished is a bomb and he won't make any more. "It's terrible," the Oscar-winning actor said Wednesday of "The Freshman." "It's going to be a flop, but after this, I'm retiring. I'm so fed up. This picture, except for the Canadian crew, was an extremely unpleasant experience. I wish I hadn't finished with a stinker."

Brando, 65, who shot the tri-star pictures production in Canada for the last 12 weeks, also told the Toronto Globe and Mail that he's fed up with bowing to the Hollywood publicity system and adores Canada. "I've come from New York, which is a warthog straight from hell. To sing my swan song here is very pleasant," he said in the mumble that turned Broadway on its ear when he made his name on stage in the late 1940s.

Brando, who won his first Oscar in 1954 for "On the Waterfront," spoke in an interview conducted, surprisingly, at his request.

Brando's most recent film, the thriller "The Formula," bombed in 1980.

In the following years, he lived like a recluse on a South Pacific island. In 1973, he refused to accept his second Oscar — for

"The Godfather" — in protest against the movie industry's treatment of the American Indian.

The same year he gave one of his best performances — as the disillusioned hero in "Last Tango in Paris" — and he was again in demand. He was paid several million dollars for a 10-minute appearance in "Superman" in 1978. Brando said he never really acted. "But there was nothing that would pay you that kind of money for that kind of foolishness," he said.

Comedian helps library

NEENAH, Wisconsin (AP) — Comedian Bob Hope poked fun at men and promoted women's rights as he completed four days of performances that raised \$75,000 to \$100,000 to help a library.

The 86-year-old comedian said during a final appearance last Saturday: "A husband had to fight his wife and said, 'How can you be so incredibly beautiful and so incredibly stupid at the same time?'" The wife reported: "It's God's will. He made me incredibly beautiful so that you may be attracted to me and he made me incredibly stupid so that I could be attracted to you."

Unforgettable car

EVANSVILLE, Indiana (AP) — Jim Defew wanted to custom-design a car that people would not forget. So he painted his 1934 Chevrolet pink and purple down to the engine and hubcaps. With a blue, orange and yellow graphic down the side, interior trimmed in snake skin, and a pair of fuzzy dice and pink-and-purple garters dangling from the rearview mirror, Defew's car stood out from the 1,700 others displayed last weekend at a hot-rod show at a county fair. "When people see a black or red car, they just walk up and look at it, but everybody just starts smiling when they walk up to (my) car. You can make people happy by the colours you use," he said. "I had to design the colour myself," Defew said. "We got to mixing and matching until we came up with the right combination."

Austrian railways said it was ready to transport hundreds of East Germans to refugee camps in West Germany.

And in West Germany, Bavarian Red Cross officials took to the air in police helicopters

Thursday looking for sites to

house "tent cities" for the East German refugees.

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Soviet Moldavia tense as language wrangle goes on

MOSCOW (R) — Tens of thousands of striking workers, who say new language laws in Soviet Moldavia are a slight to the Russian tongue, ignored an attempted compromise Friday and continued their protest.

A strike committee spokesman said the workers were upset about the removal of the constitution of Russian as the state language, and he dismissed a later compromise measure to give Russian and Moldavian equal practical weight.

"The decisions taken yesterday are a purely technical trick to weaken our movement," he told Reuters from the largely Russian and Ukrainian city of Tiraspol.

Dmitri Kondratovich said the strikers were demanding additional assurances they would not be reduced to second-class citizens in the republic, where

many Russians and Ukrainians have lived for generations.

The simmering labour unrest continued after a tumultuous day in the Moldavian parliament and on the streets of the capital, Chisinau, where police with clubs moved in to disperse tens of thousands of nationalist demonstrators.

In Estonia, the Communist Party Central Committee gathered in Tallinn to discuss the Kremlin's recent crackdown on nationalism in the Baltic republics.

Tens of thousands of Moldavians gathered in central victory square Thursday after word spread about a vote by the republic's Supreme Soviet, or parliament, on the use of the Russian language.

"It was a spontaneous protest by the people of Chisinau and neighbouring cities. There were masses of people," said Yuri Roshka, a spokesman for the Moldavian popular front.

Hungary to open doors for E. German exodus

BUDAPEST (R) — The mass exodus of East Germans seeking a new life in the West is building to a peak as Hungary prepares to speed more emigrants on their way and Austria and West Germany make ready to cope with the new arrivals.

Austrian newspapers predicted the movement of East Germans was about to reach its high watermark with people due back at school or work Monday after the summer break.

Up to 20,000 of 220,000 East Germans now in Hungary are estimated to want to resettle in West Germany. Nearly 2,000 of them are packing three makeshift camps in and near Budapest, and a fourth camp is due to open on Lake Balaton Friday.

The palace said the children would continue to live with their mother but that Phillips would have regular access to them.

Seasoned royal watchers knew earlier this year that the marriage was in trouble when the palace took the unprecedented step of naming the queen's equerry, commander Timothy Laurence, as the author of personal letters to Anne.

Royal aides said they had already decided to part before the existence of the letters became known in April.

Both Anne and Phillips have been romantically linked with other people but press reports were met with official denial.

Speculation ran rife when the couple stayed in separate rooms during the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. But Phillips said he had separate commitments and was "sick to death" of stories about the marriage being on the rocks.

Phillips, an international-class show jumping rider like his wife, has been linked with various women, most recently a blonde 45-year-old public relations consultant.

Phillips' father, Major Peter Phillips, denied to reporters that his son was involved with any other woman.

West German and Hungarian statements indicate that Hungary is preparing to allow a speedy exodus of all East Germans who want to go West instead of home.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn briefed his East German counterpart Oskar Fischer Thursday on the planned Hungarian measures aimed to bring a rapid solution, the state news agency MTI reported, giving no details.

West German Social Democratic politician Karsten Voigt told reporters Thursday evening Hungary would very soon find a solution after the end of East German school holidays this weekend.

"The basis of the solution is the principle of human rights which will allow everybody who wants

to, to leave the country," Voigt said, speaking after talks with Hungarian Foreign Ministry officials and Hungarian Communist leader Rezo Nyers.

In Austria, government spokesman said visa regulations would probably be suspended temporarily this weekend to help the expected outflow of East Germans wanting to leave their hard-line communist home via reformatory Hungary.

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